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**Accessory Phases from the Soultz monzogranite, Soultz-sous-Forêts,
France: Implications for Titanite Destabilisation and Differential REE, Y
and Th Mobility in Hydrothermal Systems**

Alexander W. Middleton^{*a}, Hans-Jürgen Förster^b, I. Tonguç Uysal^a, Suzanne D. Golding^c and Dieter Rhede^b

^a *Queensland Geothermal Energy Centre of Excellence, The University of Queensland, Queensland 4072,*

Australia

^b *Deutsches GeoForschungsZentrum GFZ, Telegrafenberg, D-14473 Potsdam, FR Germany*

^c *School of Earth Science, The University of Queensland, Queensland 4072, Australia*

Abstract

The metaluminous Soultz-sous-Forêts monzogranite, France, is highly evolved and contains elevated concentrations of rare-earth elements (REE), Y and particularly Th. Primary accessory minerals include fluorapatite, allanite-(Ce) and Th-rich titanite. Primary titanite has been altered to anatase + calcite + quartz + synchysite-(Ce) ± bastnaesite-(Ce) or anatase + calcite + quartz + monazite-(Ce) + xenotime-(Y) ± thorite. Fluorocarbonate-bearing assemblages are restricted to those samples exhibiting minor selective alteration, whereas those containing phosphate-rich assemblages formed in pervasively altered samples that have experienced high fluid/rock ratios. Comparative electron-microprobe analysis of primary and hydrothermally-derived accessory phases found middle REE, Y and Th concentrations depleted in synchysite-(Ce) relative to primary titanite. Such depletions are not seen in phosphate-rich samples containing monazite-(Ce) and xenotime-(Y). Variability in elemental concentrations may be attributed to distinct fluid chemistries and hence, lead to differential mobility during alteration. Following previous experimental work and mineralogical observations, the ingress of CO₂-rich solutions was integral for titanite breakdown and the resultant metasomatic assemblage. The influx of CO₂-rich fluids concomitantly with

chloritisation of biotite produced fluids enriched in FCO_3^- . We, therefore, hypothesise that after the alteration of titanite, remnant HCO_3^- or FCO_3^- -rich fluids were able to mobilise significant proportions of MREE, Y and Th not accommodated into the synchysite-(Ce) structure. Conversely, those samples rich in monazite-(Ce) and xenotime-(Y) retained their REE, Y and Th concentrations due to the presence of aqueous HPO_4^{2-} derived from apatite dissolution.

*Corresponding author Tel: +61 422708045

Email Address: alexander.middleton@uqconnect.edu.au

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1. Introduction

As part of the European Deep Geothermal Energy project, the Soultz-sous-Forêts monzogranite was drilled with the intention of establishing an Enhanced Geothermal System (EGS). The Soultz site received particular attention due to it representing a positive geothermal anomaly, arguably originating from convection cells of hot fluids within deeper basement and sediments (Aquilina et al., 1997). A notable characteristic of the Soultz monzogranite is the enrichment in heat-producing elements, particularly Th and U (Stussi et al., 2002). Uranium and Th commonly occur with rare earth elements and yttrium (REY) in primary accessory phases (Bea, 1996). The species of accessory phase is arguably dependent on the aluminosity (aluminium saturation index, ASI) of the igneous rock and may therefore vary from Ca-rich silicates (allanite and titanite) in metaluminous rocks ($\text{ASI} < 1$), to Ca-poor

13 phosphates (monazite and xenotime) in peraluminous rocks (Cuney and Friedrich, 1987; Watt
14 and Harley, 1993; Wolf and London, 1994; Zen, 1986). Upon interaction with hydrothermal
15 fluids, primary accessory phases may destabilise and reprecipitate as polymineralic alteration
16 assemblages. Analysis of these newly formed minerals is integral for understanding not only
17 the chemistry of the fluid, but also the mobility of constituent elements previously held in the
18 primary accessory phases.

19 This paper focuses on the metasomatic accessory phases of the Soultz monzogranite, with
20 specific attention to those formed by the breakdown of titanite. Previous studies established
21 that titanite may destabilise to: calcite + quartz + rutile \pm REY-bearing phases including
22 allanite, bastnaesite [LREE(CO₃)F], monazite [LREEPO₄] and xenotime [HREEPO₄]
23 (Bancroft et al., 1987; Hunt and Kerrick, 1977; Pan et al., 1993). This study provides a
24 comprehensive analysis of the formation of the assemblage anatase + calcite + quartz +
25 LREE-rich synchysite [(Ca,LREE)(CO₃)₂F] from alteration of titanite. Through electron-
26 microprobe studies of accessory species and ICP-MS analysis of their host rocks, we aim to
27 further understanding of REY mobility in hydrothermal solutions dominated by F-CO₃⁻
28 complexation. Moreover, our contribution is of specific significance as it presents strong
29 evidence for hydrothermal Th mobility, conventionally considered an “immobile” element.

30

31 **2. Geological Setting**

32

33 The Soultz monzogranite is situated in the western district of the Rhine Graben, proximal to
34 the Vosges fault, and is overlain by Mesozoic to Cenozoic sedimentary cover (Stussi et al.,
35 2002). The sedimentary sequences comprise Cenozoic evaporites and claystones underlain by
36 Mesozoic limestones and sandstones; the latter forming the main aquifer for the region
37 (Aquilina et al., 1997). Borehole EPS1 was drilled in the monzogranite as part of European
38 investigations into EGS and exhibited elevated concentrations of radiogenic elements, K (~4

39 wt%), Th (24–35 ppm) and U (6–13 ppm) relative to upper continental crustal averages
40 (Hooijkaas et al., 2006). The enrichment in radiogenic elements as well as REY may be
41 related to assimilation–fractional crystallisation processes as postulated by Stussi et al.
42 (2002). Zircon U/Pb work by Alexandrov et al. (2001) dates the granite at 331 ± 9 Ma
43 indicating a possible early Namurian emplacement (Gradstein and Ogg, 1997). The unaltered
44 post-metamorphic monzogranite is porphyritic, consisting of 1–8cm K-feldspar megacrysts in
45 a phaneritic matrix of quartz, plagioclase, biotite and hornblende, with primary accessory
46 fluorapatite, allanite, titanite, zircon and magnetite (Genter and Traineau, 1991).

47

48 The three most prominent alteration styles identified in the Soultz pluton are minor
49 “pervasive” propylitic, vein-related and weathering-related argillisation and formation of
50 haematite (Genter and Traineau, 1991; Ledésert et al., 2010). Although primary K-feldspar
51 and quartz appear unaltered, the primary ferromagnesian minerals (biotite and hornblende)
52 have undergone almost complete chloritisation, forming assemblages of chlorite + siderite +
53 opaques (haematite–magnetite) and chlorite + epidote (Genter and Traineau, 1991).
54 Plagioclase shows a similar intensity of selective alteration, forming needles of illite. Zones
55 proximal to fracture networks appear pervasively altered, with varying degrees of illitisation
56 and carbonatisation. In this study, we focus on the processes of pervasive alteration and its
57 chemical and mineralogical influence on the monzogranite.

58

59 **3. Analytical Techniques**

60 **3.1 ICP-OES**

61

62 For major-element analysis, samples were fused with lithium metaborate (~0.0500: 0.2000 g
63 sample/flux) in a Katanax Prime II automated fusion instrument. The samples were then
64 dissolved in 5% HNO₃ to a sample/solution weight ratio of 1: ~1000.

65 Total dissolved metals were determined using a Perkin Elmer Optima 8300 DV ICP-OES. All
66 reagents were prepared using double-distilled (sub-boiling) concentrated acids and Milli-Q
67 water (18.2 MΩ). All lab-ware was thoroughly cleaned by soaking in 1% Decon for 24 hr
68 then rinsed with high-purity water, followed by soaking in 5% HNO₃ for at least 48 hr, rinsed
69 several times with high-purity water and dried in HEPA filtered laminar flow cabinet before
70 use.

71

72 3.2 ICP-MS

73

74 For trace-element analysis, the samples were dissolved using HF+HNO₃ in Teflon beakers on
75 a hot plate. The dissolved samples were converted to nitrates and spiked with a multi-element
76 internal standard solution (⁶Li, ⁶¹Ni, ¹⁰³Rh, ¹¹⁵In, ¹⁸⁷Re, ²⁰⁹Bi, and ²³⁵U) in 2% HNO₃. Trace
77 elements were analysed by Inductively Coupled Plasma–Mass Spectrometry (ICP–MS) on a
78 Thermo X Series I. Sample preparation and analytical procedures used were similar to those
79 of Eggins et al. (1997), except that Tm was not used as an internal standard and duplicate
80 low-pressure digestions of W-2, a US Geological Survey diabase standard, were used as the
81 calibration standard. AGV1, AGV2 and G2 were run as unknown. The ¹⁵⁶CeO/¹⁴⁰Ce ratio for
82 the run was 0.016. Long-term precision (RSD) was based on duplicate analyses of the
83 duplicate digestions of AGV1, whilst precision for the run was based on five duplicate
84 analyses of W-2 which were better than 3% for most elements, except for Li, Zn, Mo, Cd,
85 and Cs, which ranged between 5% (Li, Cd and Cs) and 15% (Zn).

86

87 3.3 Electron-probe microanalysis

88

89 Electron-microprobe analyses of polished thin sections were performed in the wavelength-
90 dispersive mode using the JEOL JXA-8500F (Hyperprobe) at the Deutsches

91 GeoForschungsZentrum (GFZ) in Potsdam, Germany. Operating conditions involved an
92 accelerating voltage of 15 kV, a beam current depending on the minerals (5 nA for florencite,
93 7 nA for synchysite, 40 nA for monazite, xenotime and thorite and 60 nA for titanite and
94 allanite) and a variable beam diameter between 1 and 10 μm , in order to minimise the
95 degradation of the sample surfaces. $K\alpha$ lines were used for F, Mg, Al, Si, P, K, Ca, Ti, Mn
96 and Fe; $L\alpha$ lines for Y, Nb, Zr, La, Ce, Yb and Lu; $L\beta$ -lines for Pr, Nd, Sm, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho,
97 Er; $M\alpha$ -line for Th and $M\beta$ -lines for Pb and U. Counting times on the peak were 30 – 100 s
98 for the elements and, in each case, halftime for background counts on both sides of the peak.
99 X-ray lines and background offsets were selected to minimise interferences between elements
100 during analysis. Natural and synthetic minerals and synthetic REE+Y phosphates were used
101 as calibration standards. Matrix corrections were employed according to the Armstrong-
102 CITZAF method (Armstrong, 1995). Analytical errors were dependent not only on elemental
103 abundances in the analysed mineral phase, but also on the analytical conditions applicable to
104 the analysis of easily destructible mineral phases.

105

106 3.4 Micro-Raman spectroscopy

107

108 Raman spectra were recorded with a Jobin-Yvon LabRam HR800 spectrometer at the
109 Deutsches GeoForschungsZentrum, equipped with an Olympus optical microscope and a
110 long-working-distance LMPlanFI 100 x/0.80 objective. We used a 488 nm excitation of a
111 Coherent Ar⁺ laser Model Innova 70°C, a power of 300 mW (about 14 mW on sample), at a
112 resolution of $\leq 0.6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. Each unpolarized spectrum represents the accumulation of six
113 acquisitions of 20 s each. The spectra were collected at a constant laboratory temperature
114 (20°C) with a Peltier-cooled CCD detector, and the positions of the Raman bands were
115 controlled and eventually corrected using the principal plasma lines in the Argon laser. The

116 divergence between the recommended and measured positions of the plasma lines in the
117 fingerprint spectral region is not larger than 0.6 cm^{-1} .

118

119

120 **4. Results**

121

122 4.1 Sample Description

123

124 *4.1.1 K102 (1,608m depth)*

125

126 The shallowest of the samples, K102 represents the least altered specimen of the Soultz
127 monzogranite studied in this paper. Alteration of major phases is restricted to minor selective
128 illitisation of plagioclase and partial chloritisation of biotite, with secondary intercleavage-
129 grown anhedral titanite. Minor hornblende has been altered to epidote.

130

131 Primary accessory phases, titanite and allanite, are largely unaltered. Allanite, however,
132 shows compositional variation in back-scattered electron (BSE) images, indicating localised
133 epidotisation with consequent element mobilisation (Fig. 1a). Titanite commonly contains
134 inclusions of magnetite, zircon and fluorapatite, with the foremost being partially replaced by
135 ilmenite. Fractured titanite grains have also experienced localised minor alteration to allanite
136 (Fig. 1b).

137

138

139 *4.1.2 K108 (1,629m depth)*

140

141 K108 is semi-pervasively altered, with multiple generations of cross-cutting illite and *quartz*
142 + *ankerite* ± *synchysite veinlets*. Tabular, zoned synchysite grains occur within Mn-rich
143 cores of the oscillatory-zoned ankerite. With the exception of a K-feldspar-shielded
144 polyminerallic titanite-pseudomorph assemblage (PPA) of anatase + ankerite + quartz +
145 synchysite-(Ce) + monazite-(Ce) ± zircon, the remaining PPAs contain *anatase* + *calcite* +
146 *quartz* + *monazite-(Ce)* + *xenotime-(Y)*. Xenotime-(Y) is frequently external from the PPA,
147 rimming nearby zircons. Primary fluorapatite has been significantly altered and no longer
148 occurs as oscillatory-zoned, euhedral crystals, but rather as almost completely anhedral
149 grains. Major mineral phases plagioclase and biotite have been almost entirely illitised and
150 carbonatised, whereas K-feldspar remained unaffected apart from sporadically occurring
151 anhedral barite inclusions.

152

153

154 4.1.3 K177 (2,061m depth)

155

156 K177 has been selectively altered, with complete chloritisation of hornblende and biotite and
157 illitisation of plagioclase. Chloritised biotite also includes presents intercleavage-grown
158 secondary ankerite. Fe-stained K-feldspar commonly hosts secondary barite, carbonate
159 microveins and altered titanite. Titanite grains vary from unaltered, oscillatory-zoned
160 euhedral crystals to highly altered, forming voids hosting PPAs. Altered titanite is present as
161 either “dusted-opaque” rhombs or as euhedral-subhedral alteration pseudomorphs. Subhedral
162 pseudomorphs were identified as largely anatase, with supporting quartz-carbonate matrix.
163 Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) and microRaman showed the assemblage to be
164 *anatase* + *calcite* + *quartz* + *synchysite-(Ce)* ± *bastnaesite-(Ce)* (Fig. 1b). Back-scattered
165 images identify two varieties of PPA, where synchysite-(Ce) formed highly birefringent,
166 tabular crystals (including isolated “spongy” grains) or acicular needles. The acicular needles

167 are concentrated in titanite voids bordered by chlorite and quartz, whereas tabular phases
168 rimmed voids within K-feldspar grains. Small synchysite grains proved difficult to analyse as
169 samples were readily decomposed under a focused electron beam. Those appropriate for
170 microprobe analysis were 15–50 by 10–40µm grains. The occurrence of bastnaesite is limited
171 and was only identified in one titanite-derived PPA.

172

173 Fluorapatite grains suffered minimal alteration to monazite-(Ce) (Fig. 3a + b) and rarely
174 synchysite-(Ce), consistently found in REE-depleted domains, which appear dark in BSE
175 image. Allantite-(Ce) has been completely replaced by calcite + illite + anatase + quartz +
176 synchysite-(Ce) + bastnaesite-(Ce) + thorite (Fig. 4a + b). Allantite-(Ce), however, has a
177 fractured appearance, with minor bastnaesite-(Ce) flakes within synchysite-(Ce) masses.

178

179 Although an isolated example, the assemblage: Nb-rich anatase + rutherfordine(?)
180 [UO₂(CO₃)] + quartz + illite were found pseudomorphing the void of supposed
181 uranopolycrase [(U,Y)(Ti,Nb,Ta)₂O₆] (Fig. 5). Euhedral Nb-rich anatase crystals occur
182 inwardly rimming the uranopolycrase void, whereas anhedral grains are fracture-grown and
183 coated with rutherfordine needles.

184 ,

185 *4.1.4 K206 (2,216m depth)*

186

187 K206 has experienced the most pervasively destructive form of hydrothermal alteration,
188 which comprises kaolinitisation ± silicification overprinted by carbonatisation and illitisation
189 followed by late-stage haematisation. Plagioclase is almost entirely kaolinitised and illitised,
190 with minimal internal structure preserved, whereas K-feldspar appears insignificantly
191 affected by alteration. Very few remnant fluorapatite grains were identified in thin section.
192 Those remaining appear as anhedral grains with invasive illite veinlets (Fig. 6). Despite the

193 abundance of illite ± anatase ± zircon veinlets, sparse grains of chloritised biotite are
194 observed in the sample. Illite veins are occasionally bordered by small grains of a LREE-rich
195 aluminophosphate, tentatively identified by WDS-EMPA as Sr-rich intermediate florencite-
196 (La)-florencite-(Ce) solid solutions, $(\text{La,Ce})\text{Al}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6$. Unlike K108, K206 has no
197 recognisable synchysite grains within or surrounding decomposed titanite. The PPAs are
198 composed of *anatase + calcite + quartz + monazite-(Ce) + xenotime-(Y) ± thorite* (Fig. 7a +
199 b). Monazite-(Ce) and xenotime-(Y) represent the major REE-bearing phases.

200

201

202 4.2 Whole-rock geochemistry

203

204 The samples studied in this paper all refer to the same textural variant of the granite and, thus,
205 should have approximately the same primary geochemistry. In order to validate this
206 assumption, Ti concentrations were determined for the analysed samples. In granitic rocks, Ti
207 is documented to be the most resistant element against alteration (Förster et al., 1999) so will,
208 therefore, mirror primary element variation. The fact that all samples display virtually the
209 same Ti concentrations (Table 1), supports the conclusion of being derived from the same
210 progenitor. Consequently, the bulk of major and trace element variation recognized in the
211 samples should be alteration-induced.

212

213 With the exception of an anomalous kink for Ce_{CN} , all samples appear to have similar
214 gradients for chondrite-normalised REY patterns (Fig. 8a) from La_{CN} to Eu_{CN} . Despite similar
215 LREE patterns, K108 and K177 show elevated concentrations of LREE (La/Dy of 19.5 and
216 27.3, respectively) compared to K102 and K206 (La/Dy of 15.0 and 15.9, respectively).
217 Samples K102, K108 and K208 have near identical REY patterns between Gd_{CN} and Lu_{CN}
218 whereas K177 steepens significantly from Gd_{CN} until Y_{CN} where it plateaus out to Lu_{CN} . This

219 is further indicated by similar Dy/Lu values for K102, K108 and K206 compared to K177
220 (Table 1). Total REY contents vary from 204 ppm (K102) to 408 ppm (K177). Thorium
221 content is highly variable and shows two populations: those samples containing (REY, Th)-
222 fluorocarbonates, which are rich in Th (K108 – 59.6 ppm and K177 – 67.0); and relatively
223 Th-poor samples (K102 – 23.7 and K206 – 24.2) that are devoid of fluorocarbonates

224

225 4.3 Mineral compositions

226

227 4.3.1 Primary minerals

228

229 *Titanite*

230

231 Compositionally, titanite can be grouped according to variations in the concentration of REY
232 and Th (Table 2). REY-rich domains (average total REY₂O₃ 3.7 wt%) coincide with bright
233 BSE zones and poor domains with dark BSE zones (average total REY₂O₃ 1.3 wt%). Bright
234 zones are dominated by LREE plus Y, with average concentrations (in wt%) of 0.33, 0.48,
235 1.55 and 0.72 for Y₂O₃, La₂O₃, Ce₂O₃ and Nd₂O₃ respectively. Thorium concentrations vary
236 between 0.05 and 0.15 wt% ThO₂. Those domains poorer in REY contain relatively elevated
237 contents of Nb (0.62 wt% Nb₂O₅) and Al (1.58 Wt% Al₂O₃), reflecting the coupled
238 substitution reaction $\text{Nb}^{5+} + \text{Al}^{3+} \Leftrightarrow 2\text{Ti}^{4+}$, whereas those rich in REY have lower average Nb
239 (0.49 wt% Nb₂O₅) and Al (1.32 wt% Al₂O₃). Chondrite-normalised REY patterns (Fig. 8b)
240 are relatively flat, with only minor relative enrichment in LREE as seen by the average
241 $\text{La}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Dy}_{\text{CN}}$ and $\text{La}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Nd}_{\text{CN}}$ ratios, 7.4 (dark) to 9.8 (bright) and 1.9 (dark) to 1.3 (bright),
242 respectively. Accurate HREE concentrations were not acquirable as they were at or below
243 detection limit for the methods employed.

244

245

246 *Allanite-(Ce)*

247

248 Like titanite, allanite-(Ce) grains possess bright and dark BSE regions of distinct chemistries
249 (Fig. 8b). The variation in brightness in BSE is, however, unrelated to growth zonation and
250 can be attributed to the epidotisation of the rim and fractures (Figure 1a).

251

252 Where bright BSE regions have concentrations of 1.4, 9.6 and 10.1 wt% for ThO₂, La₂O₃ and
253 Ce₂O₃ respectively, altered dark regions are relatively depleted in these, with 0.7, 4.7 and 4.6
254 wt%, respectively (Table 2). This is seen in the total REY₂O₃ concentrations as bright
255 allanite-(Ce) (21.3 wt%) has approximately twice the REY₂O₃ as the dark allanite-(Ce) (10.0
256 wt%). Conversely, altered allanite-(Ce) contains elevated concentrations of Ca (17.5 wt%
257 CaO), Al (19.3 wt% Al₂O₃) and Si (35.3 wt% SiO₂) compared to unaltered allanite with 11.8,
258 12.7 and 32.0 wt%, respectively. The average La_{CN}/Dy_{CN} and La_{CN}/Nd_{CN} ratios vary from
259 300 (dark) to 980 (bright) and 19.4 (dark) to 16.2 (bright), respectively, indicating a
260 significant enrichment in LREE to MREE.

261

262 *Thorite*

263

264 Thorite occurs as both a primary and secondary phase. Metasomatic grains are too small to
265 permit acquisition of accurate analytical data and are only located within previous mineral
266 voids as part of PPAs. Magmatic thorite grains are partially fractured, with minimal evidence
267 of dissolution along the rim and are found as isolated phases in the rock matrix. Of the
268 analysed thorite, grains from K206 and K108 provided two chemical populations respectively
269 (Fig. 8c); those richer in LREE (av. La_{CN}/Yb_{CN} of 2.2) from K206 and those poorer in LREE
270 (av. La_{CN}/Yb_{CN} of 0.4) from K108. This discrepancy is principally dictated by the

271 concentrations of La_2O_3 , Ce_2O_3 and Pr_2O_3 as seen from the proportionally elevated values of
272 $\Sigma\text{La}_2\text{O}_3\text{--Pr}_2\text{O}_3$ for K206 (av. 1.63 wt%) to K108 (av. 0.37 wt%). Uranium and Th
273 concentrations vary only slightly between the two chemical populations: 6.2 UO_2 and 60.5
274 wt% ThO_2 (K206) and 4.6 UO_2 and 62.9 wt% ThO_2 (K108) respectively (Table 3).

275

276 *4.3.2 Secondary Minerals*

277 *K177 - Bastnaesite-(Ce)*

278

279 Only one grain of bastnaesite from a partially dissolved grain of allanite-(Ce) was appropriate
280 for analysis owing to grain-size restrictions and grain morphology (Table 4). As such its
281 chondrite-normalised REY pattern from La–Nd is almost identical in gradient to primary
282 allanite but is, however, similar in gradient to synchysite-(Ce) patterns from Sm–Yb (e.g.,
283 Fig. 8d). The steep La–Nd pattern is exemplified by the larger $\text{La}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Dy}_{\text{CN}}$ ratio of 128 as well
284 as a $\text{La}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Nd}_{\text{CN}}$ ratio (15) similar in value to allanite-(Ce). The dominant cations of
285 bastnaesite-(Ce) are (in descending order): Ce (32.6 wt% Ce_2O_3), La (29.6 wt% La_2O_3), Nd
286 (3.9 wt% Nd_2O_3) and Pr (1.8 wt% Pr_2O_3), respectively. As to nomenclature, the analysed
287 grain represents an intermediate bastnaesite-(Ce)–bastnaesite-(La) solid solution.

288

289 *K177 – Synchysite-(Ce)*

290

291 Synchysite appears relatively homogenous under high contrast BSE imaging. However, many
292 grains analysed with microRaman contain nano-scale anatase inclusions as seen from the
293 Raman shift (Fig 9a). Apparent anatase peaks were cross-referenced with those from pure
294 anatase found in PPAs (Fig.9b). Synchysite-(Ce)–anatase spectra were acquired from grains
295 within or rimming the titanite void. Although very few examples were present, grains

296 relatively distal to the PPA display little to no anatase spectra (Fig. 9c) inferring the absence
297 of inclusions.

298

299 Synchysite-(Ce) stoichiometry indicates an occasional minor excess of Ti, Ca and/or Si,
300 reflecting the presence of nano-scale inclusions of anatase, calcite and quartz that were not
301 visible in BSE image. In addition to Ca (16.5–17.9 wt% CaO), the prevalent cations in
302 competent synchysite-(Ce) grains are (in descending order as oxides): Ce (20.9–25.5 wt%),
303 La (7.8–14.22 wt%), Nd (5.6–11.9 wt%), Y (0.9–2.6 wt%) and Pr (1.9–3.1 wt%) (Table 4).
304 The variation in cation content is related to the grain surface-texture. Those grains with
305 higher Th, Y, Pr and Nd concentrations are “spongy” in appearance compared to those with
306 relatively elevated La and Ce. Chondrite-normalised REY diagrams show a flat to slight
307 inclination from La–Nd (Fig. 8d), with a moderate decrease in value and steepening slope
308 from Sm–Yb, excluding Y. This is seen from La_{CN}/Dy_{CN} and La_{CN}/Nd_{CN} ratios averaging to
309 31.5 and 2.3, respectively. The REE pattern of synchysite-(Ce) from La–Nd appears almost
310 identical to that of titanite. Yttrium presents a positive anomaly in REY plots showing an
311 average Dy_{CN}/Y_{CN} value of 1.07. The highest La (14.2 wt% La_2O_3) and Ce (25.5 wt% Ce_2O_3)
312 contents coincide with the lowest Nd (5.6 wt% Nd_2O_3) possessed by a synchysite-(Ce) grain
313 within a dark apatite embayment. Its location within fluorapatite explains the different
314 composition of this synchysite-(Ce) relative to that crystallized in titanite PPAs. Thorium
315 content ranges from 0.0–2.1 wt% ThO_2 , the larger indicating “spongy” grains.

316

317 *K108 and K206 – Monazite-(Ce)*

318

319 Element concentrations vary only slightly (Table 5) with the exception of one grain of
320 monazite from destabilised allanite (Fig. 8e – circle). This anomalous grain has La_2O_3 ,
321 Ce_2O_3 , Pr_2O_3 , Nd_2O_3 and La_{CN}/Nd_{CN} of 28.5 wt%, 31.4 wt%, 1.75 wt%, 3.9 wt% and 7.1,

322 respectively, thus representing an intermediate solid solution of monazite-(Ce) and monazite-
323 (La). The remaining grains form two chemically distinct groups, representing monazites
324 formed from apatite dissolution (Fig. 8e– square) and those from titanite dissolution (Fig. 8e
325 – triangle). The former are characterised by La_2O_3 , Ce_2O_3 , Nd_2O_3 , $\text{La}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Nd}_{\text{CN}}$ and $\text{La}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Dy}_{\text{CN}}$
326 of 18.8–21.9 wt%, 33.1–34.1 wt%, 7.4–9.1 wt%, 4.0–5.6 and 222–1110, whereas the latter
327 have concentrations of 9.8–15.8 wt%, 31.1–34.8 wt%, 9.5–15.5 wt%, 1.2–2.8 and 37.2–127,
328 respectively. Chondrite-normalised REY diagrams of monazite-(Ce) with lower $\text{La}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Dy}_{\text{CN}}$
329 have LREE patterns similar to primary titanite, however, steepen significantly from Sm–Yb,
330 with negative Y anomalies of av. 3.9 ($\text{Dy}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Y}_{\text{CN}}$). The chondrite-normalised REY patterns of
331 monazite-(Ce) from dissolved fluorapatite have regular and moderately steep gradients from
332 La–Nd, with similar steepening (to above) from Sm–Yb and $\text{Dy}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Y}_{\text{CN}}$ (3.8). The anomalous
333 grain chondrite-normalised REY pattern is similar to previously analysed allanite grains and
334 has a steep gradient from La–Nd, with significant steepening from Sm onwards.

335

336 *K108 and K206 – Xenotime-(Y)*

337 Yttrium concentrations vary from 41.9–42.4 wt% Y_2O_3 , with an average value of 42.2 wt%
338 for both samples. As LREE are less readily incorporated into the xenotime structure,
339 concentrations of Ce (0.04–0.06 wt% Ce_2O_3), Pr (0.07–0.1 wt% Pr_2O_3) and Nd (0.4–0.7 wt%
340 Nd_2O_3) content are low. As such, chondrite-normalised REY diagrams (Fig. 8f) have steep
341 positive gradients from Ce–Sm but plateau significantly from Gd–Lu. The only noticeable
342 variation in chondrite-normalised HREE is seen from a divergence of patterns after Er_{CN}
343 [$\text{Er}_{\text{CN}}/\text{Lu}_{\text{CN}}$ 1.1 (K108) and 1.7 (K206)]. Thorium concentrations vary from 0.16 to 0.26 wt%
344 ThO_2 and 1.09 to 1.14 wt% ThO_2 for K108 and K206, respectively (Table 6).

345

346

347 **5. Discussion**

348

349 SEM and EPMA results indicate that titanite has undergone destabilisation and resulted in two
350 end-member metasomatic assemblages. These assemblages are typified by REE, Y and Th-
351 bearing fluorocarbonates in K177 (CO₂-F) or phosphates plus silicates in K108 and K206
352 (CO₂-HPO₄²⁻). The variation in mineralogy stems from differing chemistries of alteration
353 fluids and variable fluid/rock ratios. In the following section we attempt to evolve genetic
354 models for CO₂-F and CO₂-HPO₄²⁻-dominated alteration; with specific attention to titanite
355 destabilisation and REY and Th mobility.

356

357 *5.1 Source of REY and Th in secondary accessory phases*

358

359 In the metaluminous (ASI <1) and Ca-rich (~2 wt% CaO) monzogranite at Soultz, titanite,
360 allanite-(Ce), fluorapatite and minor thorite constitute the principle carriers of REY and Th
361 (Stussi et al., 2002). From these magmatic species, titanite is the precursor of the
362 pseudomorph assemblages observed in samples K108, K177 and K206. This is further
363 substantiated by REY and Th-bearing fluorocarbonate and phosphate grains within or
364 rimming titanite voids as well as almost identical REY patterns for titanite, synchysite-(Ce),
365 and monazite-(Ce).

366

367 Comparison of bulk-rock data, mineral EPMA data and La_{CN}/Nd_{CN} ratios (Ttn: 1.3, Syn: 2.3
368 and Mon: 2.1) indicates relative enrichment of synchysite-(Ce) and monazite-(Ce) in La and
369 Ce relative to titanite. This implies an additional source, richer in these LREE than titanite,
370 such as allanite-(Ce) or LREE-rich uranopolycrase. Use of La_{CN}/Nd_{CN} ratios is justified on the
371 basis of uniform Nd wt% of ΣREY for titanite, synchysite-(Ce) and monazite-(Ce). Elevated
372 concentrations of LREE in allanite (Fig 8a) can be traced to the timing of crystallisation

373 (Gromet and Silver, 1983), with titanite forming first, producing relative depletion in HREE
374 in the melt, allowing a now LREE-rich allanite-(Ce) to crystallise.

375

376 Fluorapatite may also constitute a potential carrier of REE and high-field strength elements
377 (HFSE) in metaluminous granites (Watt and Harley, 1993). In sample K177, quartz-shielded
378 euhedral fluorapatite displays minimal evidence of dissolution. Primary fluorapatite grains
379 with minor dissolution–reprecipitation structures generally contain monazite-(Ce) or
380 synchysite-(Ce) within voids, indicating minimal if any release of REE into the hydrothermal
381 fluid (cf. Harlov et al., 2005). Moreover, those components released into solution are unlikely
382 to have been mobilised significant distances due to the presence of Ca^{2+} (Salvi and William-
383 Jones, 1996), a common cationic ligand destabiliser of REE and HFSE that have complexed
384 with bi-ligands such as FCO_3^- or HCO_3^- (Wood, 1990b).

385

386 A different situation is observed in samples K108 and K206, where texturally destructive
387 alteration resulted in almost complete dissolution of fluorapatite and allanite-(Ce). Due to the
388 degree of alteration, it is difficult to assess the full contribution of these phases to the aqueous
389 REY and Th budget. The discovery of hydrothermal monazite-(Ce) grains deriving from
390 allanite-(Ce) and fluorapatite, however, imply an active input of REY and Th to the
391 hydrothermal solution. Grains of primary thorite appear minimally, if at all, altered and are
392 therefore discounted as potential REY and Th sources.

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395 5.2 CO_2 – F_2 -dominated alteration

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397 5.2.1 *Origin and role of volatiles*

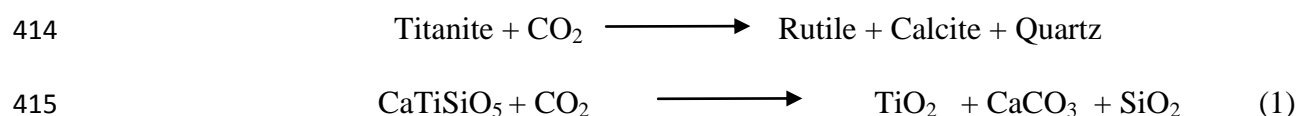
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399 The occurrence of contemporaneous synchysite-(Ce) and ankerite indicates the presence of
 400 CO₂ in the metasomatising fluid (Förster, 2001). Moreover, fluid inclusion (FI) studies by
 401 Dubois *et al.* (1996) of carbonate–quartz veins from EPS1–2052.1 m (10 m above K177)
 402 detected CO₂-rich solutions within isolated and euhedral quartz FI clusters, with
 403 homogenisation temperature–pressure pairs of ~350°C/~2.2kbar and 295°C/0.6kbar,
 404 respectively. These fluids may be sourced from either pressure and crystallisation-related
 405 degassing of deeper mafic enclaves (Lowenstern, 2001; Stussi *et al.*, 2002) or from an influx
 406 of meteoric water that has interacted with carbonate/organic-rich sedimentary units (Fouillac
 407 and Genter, 1992).

408

409 The ingress of CO₂-rich solution would have been integral for both carbonate formation and
 410 titanite destabilisation (Corlett and McIlreath, 1974; Hunt and Kerrick, 1977; William-Jones,
 411 1981). In this context, Hunt and Kerrick (1977) found that at 0.5 XCO₂, <500°C and 2kbar,
 412 titanite will destabilise according to the following equation:

413



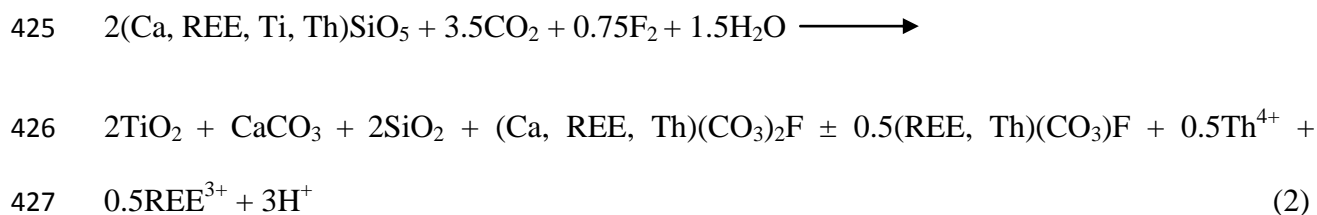
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417 This equation, however, involves an idealised composition of titanite not matching the actual
 418 composition of this species in most igneous bodies, especially evolved felsic granites
 419 exemplified by the Soultz monzogranite (Stussi *et al.*, 2002; Xie *et al.*, 2010). Taking into
 420 account the mineralogy at Soultz, as well as notably similar geochemical occurrences reported
 421 by Pan *et al.* (1993), the following reaction is more applicable:

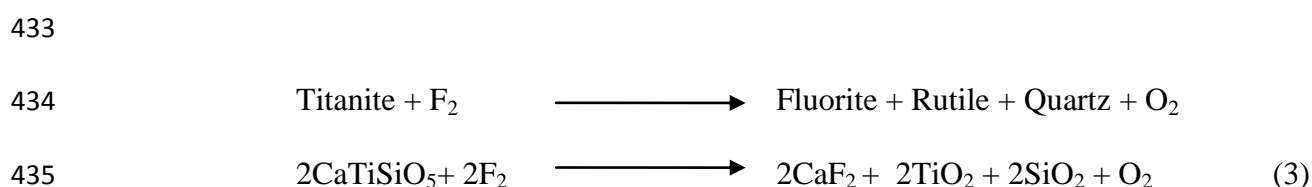
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424



Fluorine in isolation has also been noted to promote the breakdown of titanite (Bohlen and Essene, 1978; Troitzsch and Ellis, 2002). The resultant assemblage presented by Bohlen and Essene (1978) idealised that, under low fluorine and moderate oxygen fugacities, titanite is decomposed by the reaction:



This reaction is unlikely to have operated at Soultz as seen by the lack of fluorite (CaF_2) in PPAs. However, formation of synchysite-(Ce) unambiguously demonstrates that F played an essential role during alteration. The most likely source of fluorine can be traced to the anionic loss during chloritisation of biotite (Simon, 1990; Förster, 2000).

5.2.2 REY and Th mobility

Relative elemental abundances of selected elements (La, Dy, Y and Th) were calculated in order to determine element behaviour/mobility during alteration and mineral formation. Element comparison graphs were produced for La, Dy and Y by plotting chosen element percentages (of the total REY wt.%) against ΣREY wt.% in synchysite, monazite, xenotime and thorite. La and Dy were chosen to act as proxies for light and middle REE, respectively. Thorium comparison graphs differ only with the addition of Th to total REY wt.% values.

451 These graphs do not constitute absolute mass-balance calculations as total modal mineral
452 percentages and accurate mineral volume is unknown.

453

454 Rare-earth elements and Y can be variably mobilised by hydrothermal fluids depending on a
455 number of geochemical parameters such as pH, composition and redox conditions (Bau, 1991;
456 Uysal et al., 2011; Wood, 1990a; Wood, 1990b). As seen from Fig. 10a, there is a substantial
457 increase in the percentage of La of Σ REY from “parental” titanite to synchysite-(Ce),
458 suggesting involvement of a LREE-rich hydrothermal fluid. This is further substantiated by an
459 elevated LREE content in K177 relative to unaltered K102 (Table 1). The enrichment in
460 LREE may originate from intense alteration and leaching from areas proximal to K177 by
461 fluids rich in FCO_3^- or HCO_3^- . Evidence of this phenomenon was noted by Stussi et al. (2002)
462 from bulk-rock analysis of K178 (from the same core) that had significantly depleted REE
463 concentrations. An alternative hypothesis arises from REE separation by preferential sorption.
464 Assuming a mildly acidic pH (Bau and Möller, 1991; Sanematsu et al., 2011), hydrothermal
465 fluids may be depleted in HREE as their sorption strength is higher than that of their lighter
466 counterparts in the presence of certain sheet silicates allowing preferential LREE mobilisation
467 in the aqueous phase (Coppin et al., 2002). Since CO_2 is present in the system, acidity is
468 inferred from the formation of carbonic acid (Barclay and Worden, 2000) and may therefore
469 allow REE transportation with differential separation by sorption, hence enriching the newly
470 forming synchysite-(Ce) in La.

471

472 Following breakdown of titanite, REY and Th were held in aqueous phase via speciation by
473 soft ligands (Bau, 1991; Bau and Möller, 1991) such as (bi)carbonate or fluorocarbonate
474 complexes (Förster, 2000; Wood, 1990a; Wood, 1990b) as indicated by the presence of
475 synchysite-(Ce) and bastnasite-(Ce). These species would prevail over ligand F^- complexes
476 (Wood, 1990b) as the abundance of free fluorine would have triggered the precipitation of

477 fluorine-bearing phases such as fluorite (Förster, 2001). As most synchysite-(Ce) grains form
478 part of a pseudomorph or are proximal to the attributing PPA, the distance of transport for
479 those incorporated elements was minimal. The apparent immobility is, however, expected as
480 the strong affinity of calcium for CO_3^{2-} and F^- will buffer the concentration of ligands
481 available for complexation through mineral precipitation (Salvi and William-Jones, 1990;
482 Salvi and William-Jones, 1996). The MREE, Y (MREE + Y, MREY) and Th on the other
483 hand show an increased mobility as seen by the depletion of Dy, Y and Th in synchysite-(Ce)
484 relative to precursor titanite (Fig 10b – d). The loss of MREY and Th may be attributed not
485 only to the preferential incorporation of LREE into the synchysite-(Ce) crystal structure
486 (Förster, 2000; Förster, 2001; Wang et al., 1994), but also the comparatively higher stability
487 constants for MREE (Wood, 1990b) with mobilising ligands. The particularly large depletion
488 in Y may indicate that in the presence of bi-ligand complexes such as fluorocarbonates, it will
489 act as a more mobile “heavy pseudolanthanide” (Bau and Dulski, 1995). The term “heavy
490 pseudolanthanide”, in this instance, refers to the ability of Y to act in a similar manner to
491 HREE (Ho to Lu) in solution. As such, this phenomenon may offer a potential explanation for
492 the relative depletion in HREE of K177 compared to K102. The paucity of Th in synchysite-
493 (Ce) from Soultz, and therefore increased mobility of Th in solution, is potentially the
494 combined result of the lack of accommodation space in the newly formed phase resulting
495 from La and Ce abundance, and the availability of residual FCO_3^- or HCO_3^- to mobilise the
496 Th away from the site of titanite breakdown. The availability of such mobilising bi-ligands
497 may also be the cause of the substantial enrichment of K177 in Th relative to unaltered K102
498 (Table 1). This finding may therefore imply the extent of Th mobilisation is significantly
499 increased in hydrothermal environments dominated by FCO_3^- and HCO_3^- with moderate
500 fluid-rock ratio conditions.

501

502

503 5.3 CO₂-HPO₄²⁻-dominated alteration

504

505 5.3.1 Origin and role of volatiles

506

507 With the exception of an isolated synchysite-(Ce) grain in K108, secondary monazite-(Ce)
 508 and xenotime-(Y) are the principle REY reservoirs in pervasively altered K108 and K206. As
 509 these samples have virtually no euhedral apatite, it is likely that destabilised fluorapatite was
 510 the major source of aqueous phosphate for monazite-(Ce) and xenotime-(Y) precipitation.
 511 Experimental work by Harlov and Förster (2003) and Harlov et al. (2005) demonstrated that
 512 apatite will readily destabilise through interaction with KCl, HCl and H₂SO₄-dominated
 513 solutions, with dissolution–reprecipitation reactions forming REE phosphate inclusions.
 514 Following the work of Pan and Fleet (2002), monazite-(Ce) precipitation can result to
 515 compensate for charge imbalance following the original coupled substitution shown below:

516



518

and



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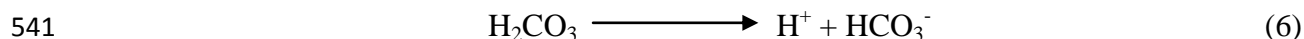
521 During dissolution of (Y+REE)-rich apatite, preferential loss of Na²⁺ and Si⁴⁺ results in a
 522 charge imbalance allowing the precipitation of monazite/xenotime in (Y+REE)-poor embayed
 523 apatite (Harlov et al., 2002). Examples of nano-channel (Harlov et al., 2005) alteration are
 524 limited to sample K177, where tiny monazite and rarely synchysite grains are present in the
 525 majority of fluorapatite grains (Fig. 3a + b). Nano-channels can be defined as “groups of
 526 parallel, 5–20 nm wide, hollow, irregular trails of interconnected nano-voids” that may serve
 527 as nucleation sites for monazite following apatite dissolution (Harlov et al., 2005). Although
 528 apatite breakdown may be caused by the introduction of HCl/H₂SO₄ (Harlov et al., 2005), it is

529 more likely that low-pH KCl-rich brines contributed, with consequent pervasive sericitisation
 530 and zircon–anatase-rich illite veining (Bonyadi et al., 2011; Gière, 1990; Torab and Lehmann,
 531 2007). The influx of aqueous brines is further postulated from previous fluid-inclusion studies
 532 (Dubois et al., 1996) as well as onsite water sampling (Aquilina et al., 1997; Pauwels et al.,
 533 1993).

534

535 The ingress of KCl-rich fluid, however, does not account for extensive PO_4^{3-} in solution but
 536 rather implies immediate precipitation of REE-bearing phosphates in and adjacent to zones of
 537 metasomatised fluorapatite. An alternative possibility is that fluorapatite dissolution occurred
 538 under near neutral conditions, as a result of carbonic acid dissociation from CO_2 -rich fluids at
 539 a late stage of the fluid-rock interaction process (Eq. 6) (Harouiya et al., 2007) :

540



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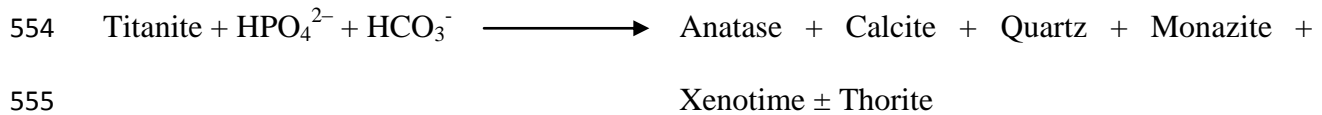


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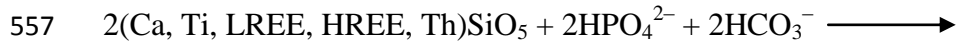
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546 Due to pervasive illitisation and carbonatisation, one can assume both KCl- and CO_2 -rich
 547 fluids played active roles during alteration (Bonyadi et al., 2011). Determination of fluid
 548 succession from cross-cutting relations has, however, proven impossible due to several stages
 549 of overprinting. This may indicate mixing of CO_2 -rich fluids with KCl-rich basinal brines of
 550 the Permian Bundsandstein Formation (Kominou and Yardley, 1997). Upon interaction with
 551 K–Cl– CO_2 -rich solutions, dissociated carbonic acid would have resulted in apatite breakdown
 552 (Eq. 7) and subsequent titanite dissolution (Bancroft et al., 1987) :

553



556



559 The prevalence of phosphates and silicates over fluorocarbonates as principle REE and Th-
 560 bearing phases may result from a combination of acidity, mineralogy and the abundance of
 561 free phosphate anions. Illite, for example, may have acted as the principle sink for fluorine
 562 freed-up from biotite and fluorapatite (Thomas et al., 1977), therefore buffering the activity
 563 of F^- in solution.

564

565 The anomalous assemblage with phosphates and fluorocarbonates in K108 may, however,
 566 result from minor fluorapatite breakdown and higher pCO_2 relative to K206. Further evidence
 567 of locally high CO_2 activity is seen from the presence of ankerite–synchysite-(Ce) veinlets.
 568 These veinlets likely formed as a result of contemporaneous titanite breakdown and
 569 illitisation-carbonatisation. Following illitisation of major phases and with increasing
 570 alkalinity, Ca^{2+} , Fe^{2+} , Mg^{2+} and Mn^{2+} released into solution formed ankerite in pre-existing
 571 fractures. As veinlets contain various illite–carbonate overprinting, it is emphasized that fluid
 572 flow was episodic (Barker et al., 2006). Crystal growth was most likely initiated by syntaxial
 573 blocky quartz (Bons and Montenari, 2005) and ankerite–synchysite-(Ce) followed by illite
 574 overprinting and subsequent re-opening. The central Mn-zone-entrained synchysite-(Ce) may
 575 have formed by a process of supersaturation–nucleation–depletion (SND) (Barker and Cox,
 576 2010; Ortoleva et al., 1987). This particular process can briefly be explained as a fluid
 577 reaching a supersaturation point of element X resulting in nucleation and consequent
 578 depletion in that element distal from the point of the nucleation.

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5.3.2 REY and Th mobility

The behaviour of REY and Th in samples K108 and K206 appears different from sample K177. The difference in mobility may be related to the availability of ligand complexes and the intensity of destructive alteration. A similarity does, however, exist in the enrichment of La (and Ce) in the metasomatic monazite-(Ce) grains (Fig. 10a), which is attributed to processes described above.

The degree of La enrichment in monazite-(Ce) is, however, smaller relative to synchysite-(Ce). Due to the lack of either Pr_{CN} or Nd_{CN} anomalies, negative La anomalies in monazite-(Ce) could be identified using the methodology of Bau and Dulski (1996). Due to its incompatibility as well as lack of accommodation space in newly precipitated monazite-(Ce) and xenotime-(Y), LREE, particularly La, preferentially remained in solution. The resultant La-rich fluid may therefore account for the later, nearby precipitation of florencite-(La)-florencite-(Ce) solid solutions intergrown with illite veinlets. The prevalence of xenotime-(Y) in K108 and K206 indicates preferential incorporation of middle to HREY; thus a reduction in their mobility relative to K177. As ligands available for complexation, such as HCO_3^- (Bau and Dulski, 1995), were buffered by the presence of divalent cations (Xu et al., 2004) and abundant HPO_4^{2-} remained in solution, middle to HREY are not likely to be mobilised significantly. As such, the middle to HREY element budget was maintained relative to unaltered K102 as seen from the Dy/Lu ratios in Table 1.

604 With the degree of scatter in Fig. 10d, it is hard to distinguish whether a wholesale loss or
605 gain of Th took place during destabilisation of titanite. However, based on the precipitation of
606 secondary thorite grains within xenotime-(Y), the minor alteration of primary thorite and the
607 maintenance of bulk-rock Th (Table 1) compared to K102, it can be assumed there was
608 minimal mobilisation of Th in K206. Furthermore, the acidity of solution and consequent
609 breakdown of silicates (Reed, 1997) and apatite (Harouiya et al., 2007) would have
610 encouraged Th fixation therefore minimising its mobility. The conversely elevated
611 concentrations of Th (60ppm) in K108 can be attributed to the extensive synchysite-bearing
612 carbonate veinlets, allowing the addition of Th from abundant HCO_3^- or FCO_3^- mobilising
613 ligands.

614

615

616 **6. Conclusions**

617

618 The multifaceted analytical study presented in this paper has proved useful in determining
619 conditions for mineral destabilisation and delineating differential element mobility in
620 geothermal systems:

- 621 1. Vein–fracture-related alteration significantly modified the original mineralogy with
622 varying intensity. The accessory phases, titanite, allanite-(Ce), apatite and previously
623 unknown uranopolycrase have been altered to, among other minerals, various
624 incompatible element-bearing phases. Alteration products of titanite specifically, are
625 dominated by phosphates or fluorocarbonates and are representative of varying
626 fluid/rock ratios and fluid chemistries.
- 627 2. Comparative analyses show synchysite-(Ce) depleted in MREE, Y and Th relative to
628 titanite. Thorium concentrations are, however, predominantly maintained in titanite-
629 derived monazite-(Ce) and xenotime-(Y), whereas middle to heavy REE are

630 preferentially incorporated into xenotime-(Y). The REE, Y and Th are comparatively
631 immobile in samples containing hydrothermal monazite and xenotime due to the
632 abundance of free HPO_4^{2-} in solution. However, depleted MREE, Y and Th
633 concentrations in synchysite-(Ce) indicate not only a lack of accommodation space
634 but a significantly increased mobility of those elements in hydrothermal solutions
635 dominated by (bi)-ligands such as FCO_3^- and/or HCO_3^- .

636 Although not fully constrained for the Soultz monzogranite, determining the full extent of Th
637 mobilisation is of significant importance when trying to understand HHP element enrichment
638 in granitic hydrothermal systems.

639

640

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650

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796

~~797~~ **Figure captions**

799 Figure 1 (a+b)

800 BSE photomicrographs from K102 of (a) patchy-zoned, euhedral primary allanite with darker
801 localised domains of epidotisation (arrow), (b) oscillatory-zoned euhedral titanite with partial
802 alteration to brighter allanite (arrow).

803

804 Figure 2 (a)

805 BSE photomicrograph from K177 of destabilised titanite forming anatase (Ant) + calcite
806 (Cal) + quartz (Qz) + synchysite-(Ce) (Syn).

807

808 Figure 3 (a+b)

809 BSE photomicrographs from K177 of (a) intensively oscillatory-zoned fluorapatite showing
810 (b) local REE-depletion (Dep) domains (dark) where small monazite (Mnz) grains formed as
811 result of dissolution-precipitation processes.

812

813 Figure 4 (a+b)

814 BSE photomicrographs from K177 of (a) allanite altered to calcite (Cal) + illite (Ill) + anatase
815 (Ant) + quartz (Qz), with fracture-grown synchysite + bastnaesite + thorite intergrowths

816 proximal to hematite-magnetite grains (Hem-Mag); (b) high-contrast image of synchysite
817 (Syn), bastnaesite (Bas) and thorite (Thr) seen in (a).

818

819 Figure 5

BSE photomicrograph from K177 of uranopolycrase altered to Nb-rich anatase (Ant) +
rutherfordine (Rtd) + quartz (Qz) + illite (Ill).

820

821 Figure 6

822 BSE photomicrograph from K206 of an anhedral fluorapatite broken down by CO₂ + KCl-
823 rich solution, as seen by the invasive illite veinlets (arrow) (K206).

824

825 Figure 7

826 BSE photomicrographs from K206 of (a) destabilised titanite forming anatase (Ant) + calcite
827 (Cal) + quartz (Qz) + monazite (Mnz) + xenotime (Xtm) + thorite (Thr); (b) high contrast
828 image of monazite, xenotime and xenotime enclosed thorite.

829

830 Figure 8

831 Chondrite-normalised REY distribution patterns for (a) whole-rock analyses of K102 (circle),
832 K108 (square), K177 (diamond) and K206 (triangle); (b) allanite (square) and titanite
833 (triangle); (c) primary thorite (square – K108 and circle – K206); (d) synchysite-(Ce) (square
834 and triangle) formed in response to titanite dissolution and bastnaesite-(Ce) (circle) produced
835 during destabilisation of allanite-(Ce); (e) monazite-(Ce) formed in response to titanite
836 dissolution (triangle), monazite-(Ce) forming inclusions in fluorapatite (circle), and
837 monazite-(Ce) produced during destabilisation of allanite-(Ce) (square); (f) xenotime-(Y)
838 (K108 – square and K206 – triangle).

839

840 Figure 9

841 RAMAN spectra for (a) synchysite-(Ce) with nano-scale anatase inclusions; (b) an anatase
842 grain; and (c) synchysite-(Ce) with little or no anatase. All analyses are from sample K177.

843

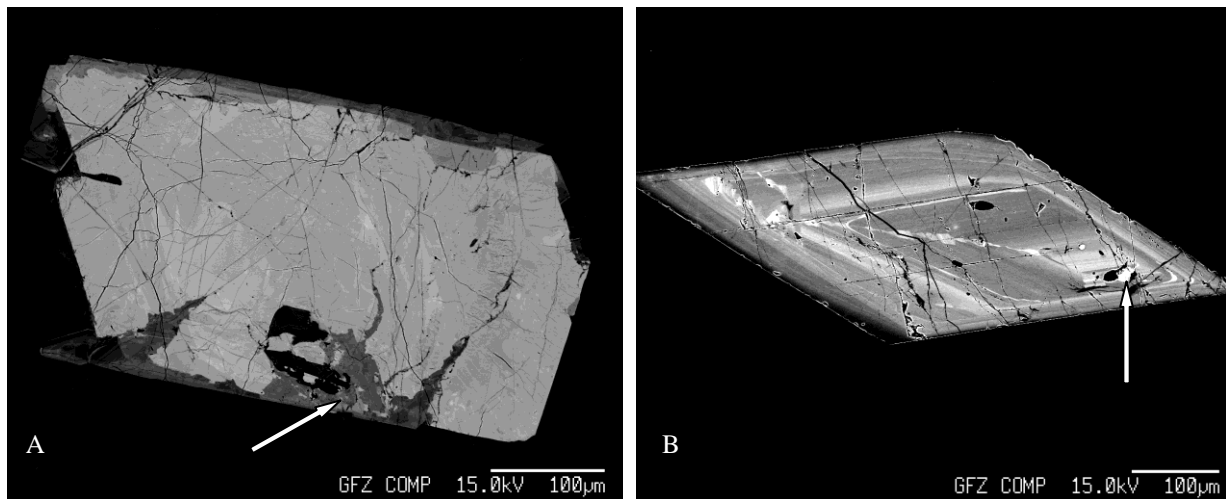
844 Figure 10

845 Plots of (a) La % of REE + Y versus Σ REE + Y, (b) Y % of REE + Y versus Σ REE + Y, (c)

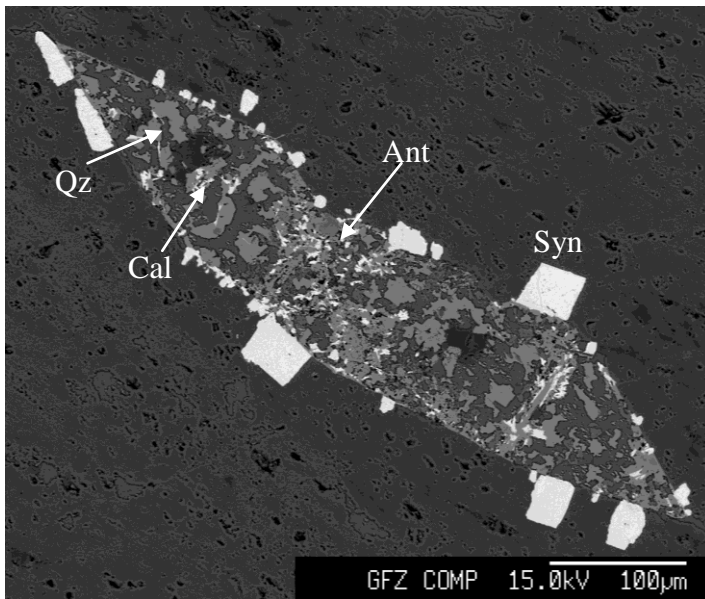
846 Dy % of REE + Y versus Σ REE + Y and (d) Th % of REY + Th versus Σ REY + Th.

847 Triangle = titanite, square = synchysite, diamond = monazite and cross = xenotime.

848

849 Figure 1

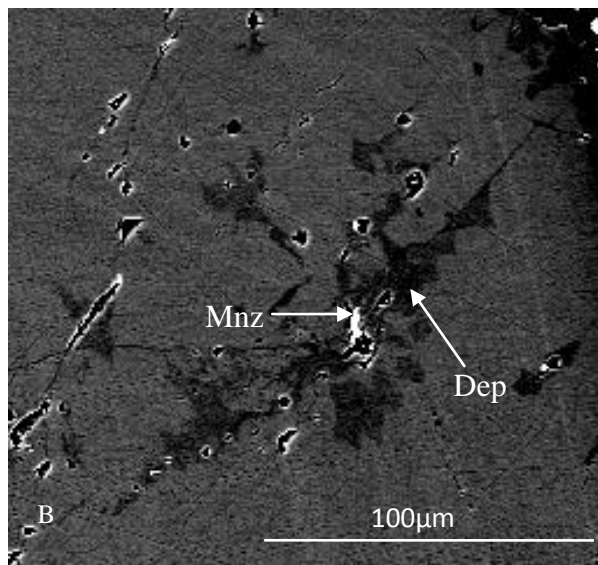
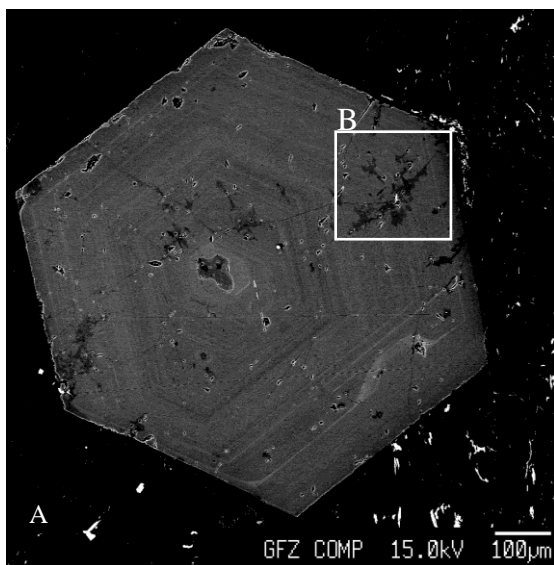
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852 **Middleton et al.: Figure 2**

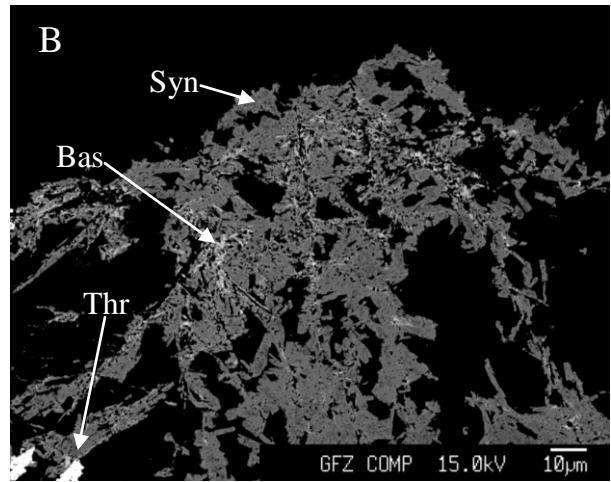
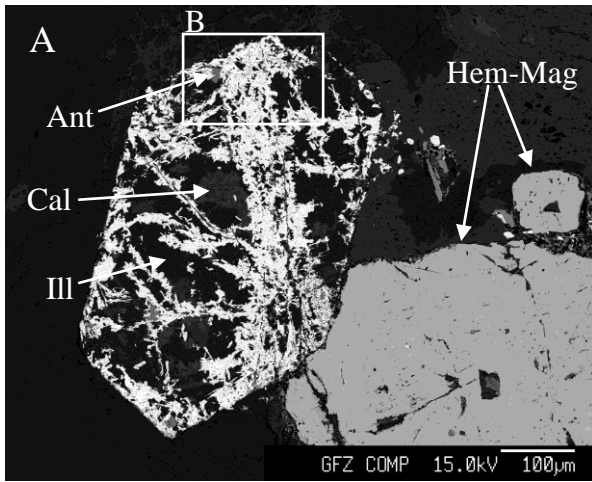
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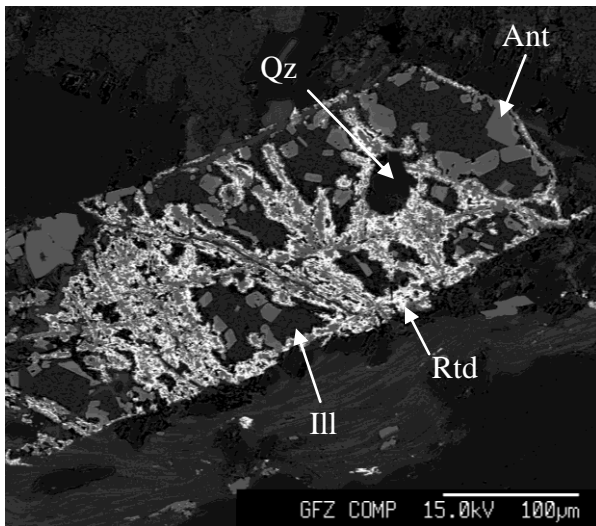
855 **Middleton et al. Figure 3**

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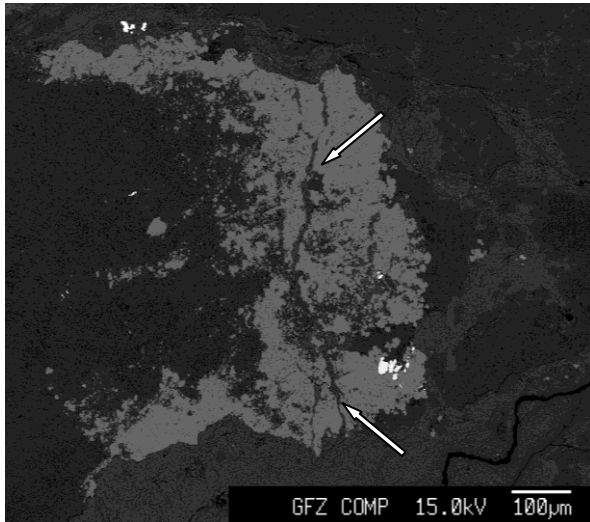
858 Middleton et al. Figure 4



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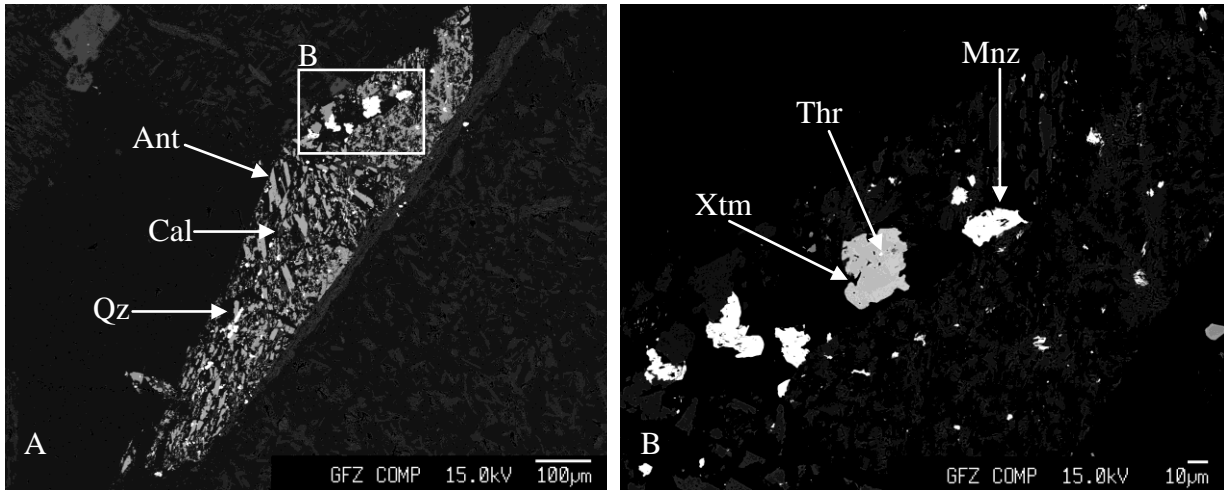
860 Middleton et al. Figure 5

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862

863 **Middleton et al. Figure 6**



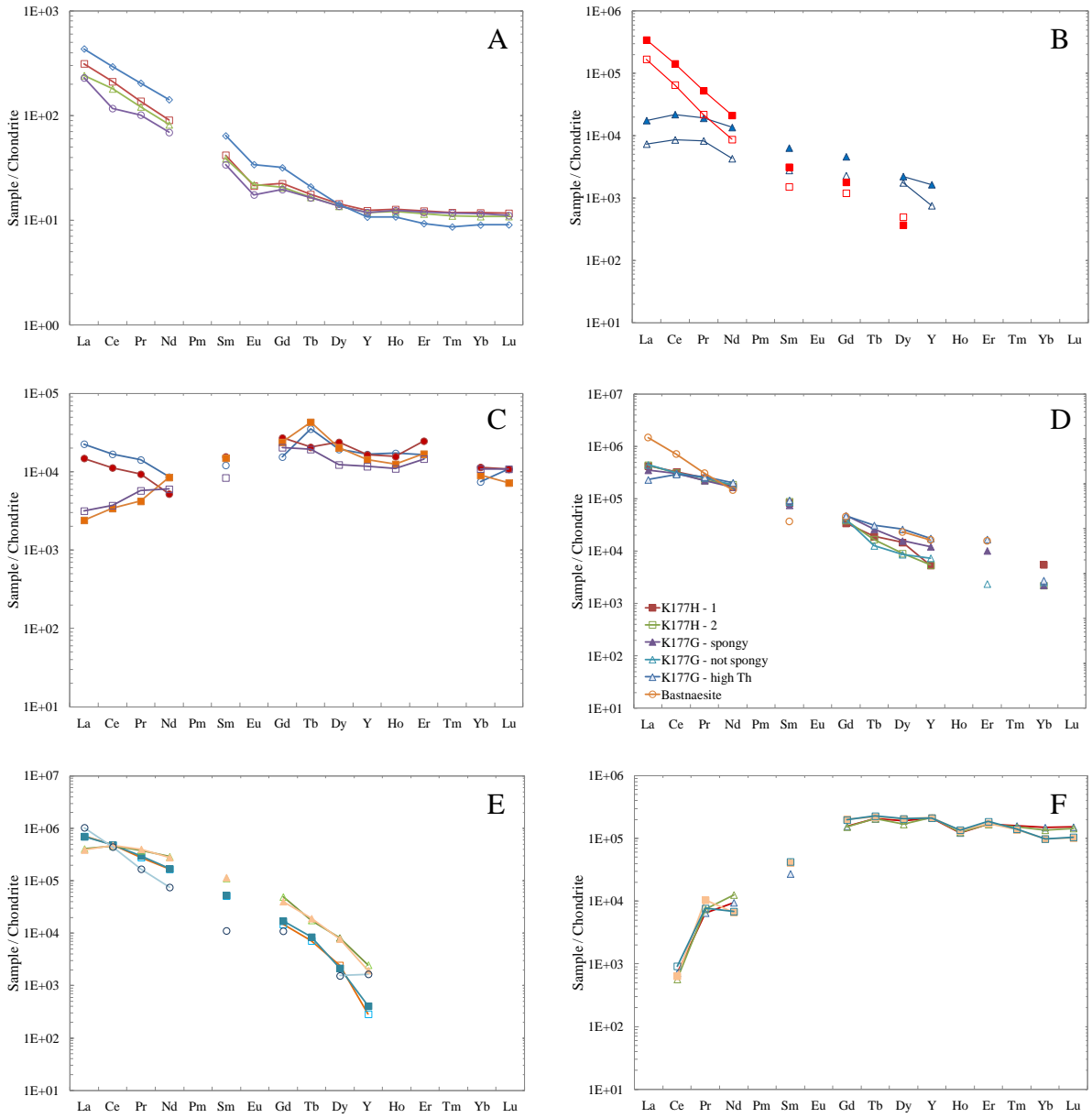
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865 **Middleton et al. Figure 7**

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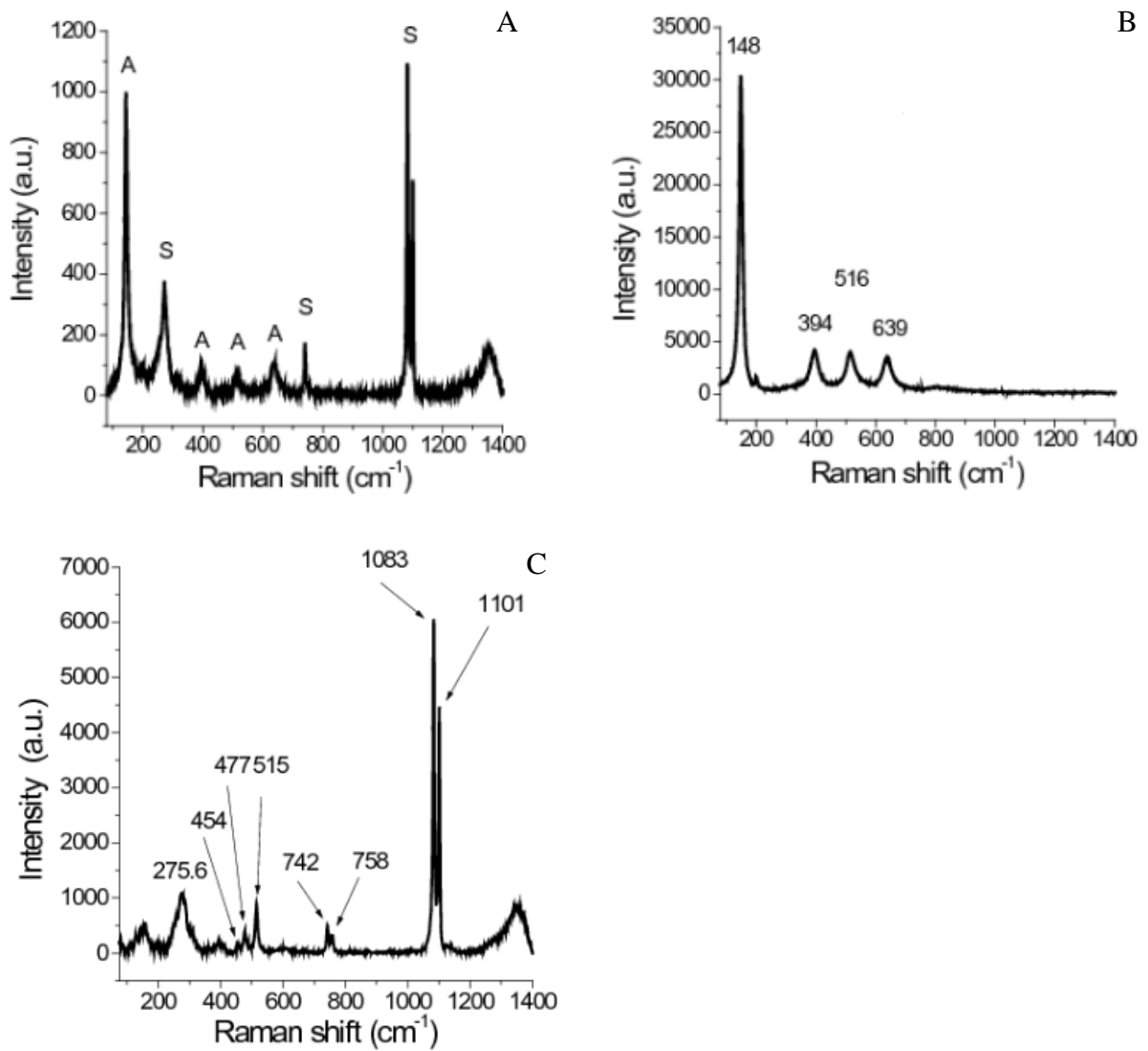
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870 **Middleton et al. Figure 8**

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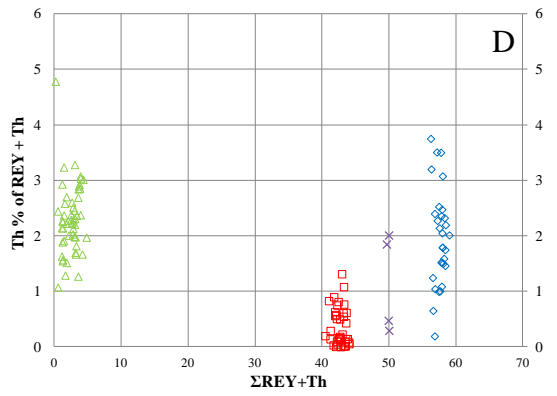
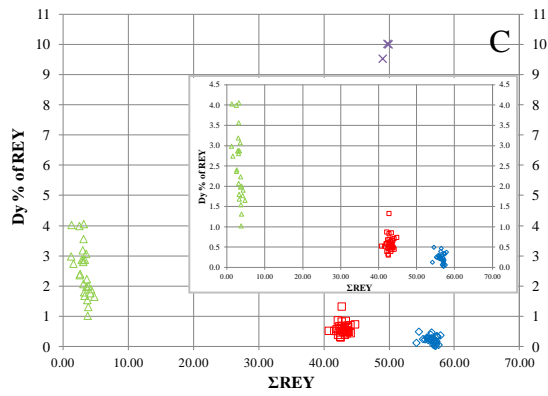
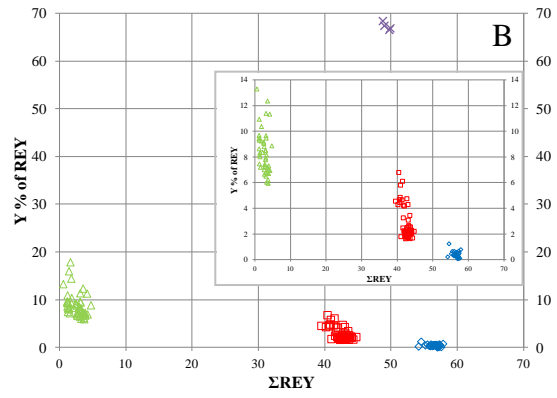
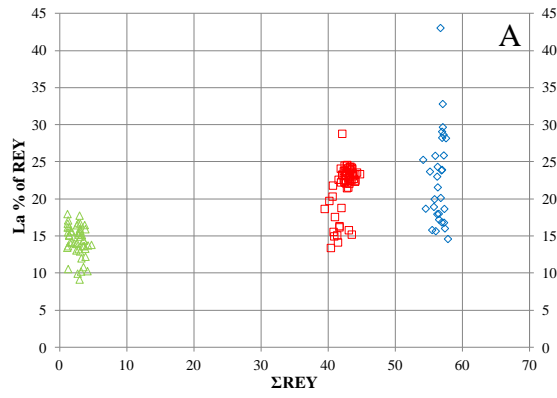


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875 Middleton et al. Figure 9

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880 Middleton et al. Figure 10

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882

Table 1. Major- and selected trace-element concentrations of whole-rock samples

Sample	K102	K108	K177	K206
SiO ₂ (wt%)	69.1	68.6	64.4	63.0
TiO ₂	0.54	0.57	0.56	0.57
Al ₂ O ₃	14.1	14.8	15.4	15.5
Fe ₂ O ₃ ^a	2.98	2.18	6.28	2.19
MnO	0.08	0.12	0.04	0.08
MgO	1.31	0.81	1.50	0.59
CaO	1.72	1.76	0.91	3.74
Na ₂ O	3.83	1.63	2.36	2.85
K ₂ O	5.72	6.55	5.62	6.05
P ₂ O ₅	0.24	0.33	0.29	0.26
F	0.09	0.12	0.10	0.09
LOI	0.76	3.28	2.48	3.72
Total	100	100	99.9	98.6
La (ppm)	52.2	71.2	98.8	54.9
Ce	71.8	129	180	111
Pr	9.65	13.1	19.5	11.6
Nd	32.3	42.3	66.5	38.3
Sm	5.21	6.42	9.84	5.93
Eu	1.02	1.24	1.98	1.27
Gd	4.05	4.60	6.55	4.23
Tb	0.61	0.66	0.78	0.62
Dy	3.48	3.66	3.62	3.47
Y	18.6	19.3	16.8	18.6
Ho	0.70	0.72	0.61	0.68
Er	1.98	2.03	1.54	1.91
Tm	0.30	0.30	0.22	0.28
Yb	1.96	2.01	1.53	1.85
Lu	0.28	0.30	0.23	0.28
ΣREY	204	297	408	254
Th	23.7	59.6	67.0	24.2
U	2.11	13.4	20.9	6.96
La/Lu	185	240	429	198
Dy/Lu	12.3	12.3	15.7	12.5

Table 2 Composition (in wt%) of titanite and allanite-(Ce) from sample K102

Sample	Det. limit (ppm)	Ttn 1	Ttn 2.		Ep	Aln			
		Aver. (n=23)	<i>Min – Max</i>	Aver.(n=30)	<i>Min – Max</i>	Aver. (n=8)	<i>Min – Max</i>	Aver. (n=6)	<i>Min – Max</i>
Nb ₂ O ₅	52	0.75	(0.14 – 2.79)	0.49	(0.28 – 0.99)				
Ta ₂ O ₅	245	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.70)	0.05	(0.00 – 0.20)				
SnO ₂	48	0.05	(0.03 – 0.12)	0.04	(0.02 – 0.07)				
SiO ₂	75	30.6	(29.86 – 30.93)	30.1	(29.61 – 30.48)	35.3	(33.79 – 36.41)	32.0	(31.31 – 32.68)
TiO ₂	180	35.4	(31.37 – 37.22)	35.5	(34.50 – 36.31)	0.20	(0.04 – 0.67)	1.32	(0.48 – 1.55)
ZrO ₂	88	0.05	(0.01 – 0.24)	0.09	(0.04 – 0.19)				
ThO ₂	39	0.04	(0.01 – 0.07)	0.09	(0.05 – 0.15)	0.66	(0.18 – 1.49)	1.41	(1.33 – 1.60)
UO ₂	106	0.03	(0.00 – 0.06)	0.01	(0.00 – 0.04)	0.03	(0.01 – 0.05)	0.03	(0.01 – 0.06)
Al ₂ O ₃	42	1.43	(1.07 – 1.82)	1.32	(1.15 – 1.47)	19.3	(16.39 – 20.87)	12.6	(11.11 – 15.46)
Y ₂ O ₃	64	0.18	(0.00 – 0.37)	0.33	(0.22 – 0.59)	0.00	(0.00 – 0.00)	0.00	(0.00 – 0.00)
La ₂ O ₃	198	0.22	(0.05 – 0.39)	0.48	(0.32 – 0.69)	4.66	(3.21 – 7.62)	9.63	(8.41 – 10.65)
Ce ₂ O ₃	184	0.68	(0.12 – 1.17)	1.55	(0.107 – 2.04)	4.63	(3.27 – 6.88)	10.1	(7.98 – 11.21)
Pr ₂ O ₃	271	0.07	(0.00 – 0.18)	0.20	(0.12 – 0.33)	0.23	(0.17 – 0.36)	0.54	(0.33 – 0.66)
Nd ₂ O ₃	246	0.26	(0.01 – 0.49)	0.72	(0.53 – 1.15)	0.46	(0.39 – 0.56)	1.07	(0.68 – 1.31)
Sm ₂ O ₃	253	0.05	(0.00 – 0.14)	0.11	(0.05 – 0.21)	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.04)	0.02	(0.00 – 0.11)
Gd ₂ O ₃	267	0.04	(0.00 – 0.11)	0.10	(0.02 – 0.22)	0.02	(0.00 – 0.05)	0.02	(0.00 – 0.07)
Dy ₂ O ₃	293	0.03	(0.00 – 0.10)	0.06	(0.00 – 0.13)	0.02	(0.00 – 0.07)	0.00	(0.00 – 0.01)
FeO	112	1.90	(0.10 – 2.82)	1.83	(0.156 – 2.10)	13.2	(12.52 – 14.09)	12.9	(11.33 – 14.48)
CaO	30	27.5	(26.83 – 28.30)	26.0	(25.75 – 27.01)	17.5	(14.31 – 19.44)	11.8	(11.29 – 13.05)
MgO	48	0.03	(0.01 – 0.06)	0.03	(0.01 – 0.05)	0.25	(0.11 – 0.67)	1.01	(0.58 – 1.66)
MnO	77	0.24	(0.20 – 0.35)	0.21	(0.17 – 0.24)	0.75	(0.62 – 0.87)	1.21	(0.70 – 1.65)
Total		99.5		99.9		97.1		95.8	
ΣREY ₂ O ₃		1.54	(0.18 – 2.96)	3.65	(2.33 – 5.36)	10.0	(7.04 – 15.57)	21.3	(17.41 – 24.03)

886 Aver. = average, Ttn = titanite, Ep = REE-rich epidote, Aln = allanite-(Ce), blank = not analysed, b.d.l. = below detection limit.

Table 3. Composition (in wt%) of thorite from samples K108 and K206

Sample	K108			K206	
	Det. limit (ppm)	Aver. (n= 14)	<i>Min – Max</i>	Aver. (n=2)	<i>Min – Max</i>
P ₂ O ₅	100	3.62	(2.96 – 4.13)	2.53	(2.39 – 2.66)
SiO ₂	115	16.3	(15.41 – 16.89)	18.1	(17.67 – 18.44)
TiO ₂	333	0.05	(0.00 – 0.09)	0.03	(0.01 – 0.05)
ZrO ₂	203	1.19	(0.40 – 2.59)		
ThO ₂	77	62.9	(58.96 – 65.41)	60.5	(59.92 – 61.15)
UO ₂	203	4.57	(3.06 – 6.37)	6.23	(5.97 – 6.49)
Al ₂ O ₃	70	0.13	(0.06 – 0.25)	0.47	(0.28 – 0.65)
Y ₂ O ₃	142	2.82	(2.32 – 3.38)	3.30	(3.28 – 3.32)
La ₂ O ₃	511	0.10	(0.05 – 0.17)	0.52	(0.41 – 0.62)
Ce ₂ O ₃	446	0.22	(0.14 – 0.29)	0.99	(0.80 – 1.19)
Pr ₂ O ₃	694	b.d.l.	(0.01 – 0.07)	0.12	(0.10 – 0.15)
Nd ₂ O ₃	630	0.37	(0.23 – 0.48)	0.36	(0.28 – 0.45)
Sm ₂ O ₃	539	0.24	(0.14 – 0.31)	0.24	(0.21 – 0.27)
Gd ₂ O ₃	714	0.55	(0.39 – 0.66)	0.48	(0.35 – 0.62)
Tb ₂ O ₃	607	0.13	(0.06 – 0.20)	0.12	(0.09 – 0.15)
Dy ₂ O ₃	633	0.55	(0.34 – 0.71)	0.60	(0.54 – 0.67)
Ho ₂ O ₃	650	0.08	(0.06 – 0.10)	0.11	(0.10 – 0.11)
Er ₂ O ₃	750	0.28	(0.20 – 0.49)	0.38	(0.30 – 0.45)
Yb ₂ O ₃	375	0.17	(0.11 – 0.23)	0.18	(0.14 – 0.21)
Lu ₂ O ₃	398	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.04)	0.03	(0.03 – 0.03)
CaO	53	1.12	(0.80 – 1.45)	0.44	(0.44 – 0.45)
FeO	224	0.18	(0.07 – 0.38)	0.15	(0.13 – 0.17)
PbO	118	0.06	(0.02 – 0.15)	0.18	(0.15 – 0.20)
Total		95.6		96.0	
ΣREY ₂ O ₃		5.59	(4.65 – 6.91)	7.42	(7.29 – 7.56)

Aver. = average, blank = not analysed, b.d.l. = below detection limit.

Table 4. Composition (in wt%) of bastnaesite-(Ce) and synchysite-(Ce) from sample K177

Sample	Det. limit (ppm)	Bas	Syn 1 Aver.(n=20)	<i>Min – Max</i>	Syn 2 Aver.(n=30)	<i>Min – Max</i>
P ₂ O ₅	99	0.07	0.01	(0.00 – 0.05)	0.04	(0.00 – 0.50)
SiO ₂	83	0.41	0.67	(0.18 – 1.43)	0.72	(0.14 – 1.33)
TiO ₂	478	0.00	0.40	(0.02 – 1.26)	0.35	(0.00 – 0.92)
ZrO ₂	195	0.00	0.00	(0.00 – 0.01)	0.00	(0.00 – 0.02)
ThO ₂	127	1.29	0.24	(0.03 – 0.61)	0.11	(0.00 – 0.54)
UO ₂	359	0.00	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.12)	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.06)
Al ₂ O ₃	72	0.33	0.21	(0.02 – 0.46)	0.27	(0.10 – 0.66)
Y ₂ O ₃	255	1.12	1.35	(0.96 – 2.58)	1.18	(0.88 – 2.23)
La ₂ O ₃	953	29.6	11.6	(10.42 – 12.38)	11.7	(7.77 – 14.22)
Ce ₂ O ₃	862	32.6	22.6	(21.26 – 23.46)	22.9	(20.97 – 25.49)
Pr ₂ O ₃	1306	1.80	2.44	(2.09 – 2.70)	2.55	(1.91 – 3.12)
Nd ₂ O ₃	1364	3.85	9.19	(8.43 – 9.75)	9.50	(5.63 – 11.94)
Sm ₂ O ₃	1069	0.25	1.39	(1.20 – 1.65)	1.42	(0.35 – 1.89)
Gd ₂ O ₃	1070	0.43	1.02	(0.71 – 1.34)	0.95	(0.15 – 1.36)
Tb ₂ O ₃	1198		b.d.l.	(0.04 – 0.15)	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.20)
Dy ₂ O ₃	1149	0.24	0.30	(0.16 – 0.67)	0.28	(0.00 – 0.59)
Er ₂ O ₃	1422	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.17)	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.08)
Yb ₂ O ₃	695	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.15)	b.d.l.	(0.00 – 0.16)
CaO	75	1.51	16.79	(16.55 – 17.17)	16.8	(16.53 – 17.90)
FeO	360	0.24	0.10	(0.00 – 0.36)	0.08	(0.00 – 0.50)
F	393	7.93	5.50	(5.16 – 5.76)	5.40	(4.57 – 5.75)
F=O ₂		3.34	2.31	(2.17 – 2.42)	2.27	(1.92 – 2.42)
Total		78.4	71.6		72.1	
ΣREY ₂ O ₃		69.9	49.9	(47.78 – 51.11)	50.6	(49.07 – 52.41)

Aver. = average, Bas = bastnaesite-(Ce), Syn = synchysite-(Ce), blank = not analysed, b.d.l. = below detection limit.

Table 5. Composition (in wt%) of monazite (Mnz) derived from altered titanite (Ttn) and apatite (Ap) in samples K108 and K206.

Sample	K108			K206				
	Det. limit (ppm)	Mon (Ttn) Aver. (n=16)	<i>Min – Max</i>	Mon (anomalous)	Mon (Ttn) Aver. (n=7)	<i>Min – Max</i>	Mon (Ap) (n=7)	<i>Min – Max</i>
P ₂ O ₅	91	29.6	(29.01 – 30.05)	30.2	29.8	(29.55 – 30.03)	30.4	(30.24 – 30.58)
SiO ₂	92	0.50	(0.13 – 0.91)	0.20	0.66	(0.46 – 0.77)	0.24	(0.23 – 0.28)
TiO ₂	277	0.35	(0.00 – 0.67)	0.11	0.81	(0.38 – 1.04)	0.02	(0.01 – 0.05)
ThO ₂	64	1.42	(0.42 – 2.40)	0.12	1.33	(0.65 – 2.05)	1.07	(0.66 – 1.46)
UO ₂	176	0.00	(0.00 – 0.04)	0.00	0.00		0.01	(0.00 – 0.02)
Al ₂ O ₃	58	0.24	(0.04 – 0.57)	0.50	0.26	(0.04 – 0.53)	0.34	(0.28 – 0.44)
Y ₂ O ₃	129	0.33	(0.15 – 0.58)	0.33	0.42	(0.19 – 0.86)	0.09	(0.06 – 0.14)
La ₂ O ₃	468	13.0	(9.85 – 17.33)	28.5	13.7	(11.82 – 15.96)	19.7	(18.87 – 21.94)
Ce ₂ O ₃	446	33.3	(31.65 – 34.84)	31.4	32.8	(31.13 – 34.06)	34.1	(33.39 – 34.88)
Pr ₂ O ₃	646	3.72	(3.05 – 4.33)	1.75	3.54	(3.35 – 3.72)	2.95	(2.64 – 3.14)
Nd ₂ O ₃	610	12.8	(9.52 – 15.51)	3.97	12.5	(11.23 – 15.37)	8.69	(7.49 – 9.13)
Sm ₂ O ₃	476	1.61	(1.04 – 2.32)	0.19	1.60	(1.46 – 2.03)	0.86	(0.67 – 0.96)
Gd ₂ O ₃	599	0.87	(0.48 – 1.22)	0.25	0.90	(0.71 – 1.15)	0.39	(0.33 – 0.44)
Tb ₂ O ₃	514	0.07	(0.00 – 0.10)	b.d.l	0.05	(0.04 – 0.06)	b.d.l	(0.02 – 0.06)
Dy ₂ O ₃	517	0.17	(0.08 – 0.25)	b.d.l	0.21	(0.11 – 0.31)	0.05	(0.02 – 0.10)
Er ₂ O ₃	622	0.08	(0.04 – 0.15)	b.d.l	b.d.l	(0.03 – 0.07)	b.d.l	(0.00 – 0.03)
Yb ₂ O ₃	308	b.d.l	(0.00 – 0.04)	b.d.l	b.d.l	(0.01 – 0.03)	b.d.l	(0.00 – 0.03)
CaO	49	0.68	(0.54 – 0.92)	0.55	0.56	(0.32 – 0.97)	0.41	(0.36 – 0.47)
PbO	104	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00	
Total		99.3		98.2	99.3		99.3	
ΣREY ₂ O ₃		65.9	(62.62 – 65.97)	65.9	65.8	(61.41 – 65.50)	66.9	(66.13 – 66.82)

Aver. = average, Mnz = monazite, Ttn = titanite, Apa = apatite, blank = not analysed, b.d.l. = below detection limit.

Table 6. Composition (in wt%) of xenotime-(Y) from samples K108 and K206.

Sample	K108			K206	
	Det.limit (ppm)	Aver. (n=2)	<i>Min – Max</i>	Aver. (n=2)	<i>Min – Max</i>
P ₂ O ₅	133	34.1	(33.98 – 34.20)	33.2	(33.10 – 33.20)
SiO ₂	103	0.98	(0.94 – 1.01)	1.47	(1.45 – 1.48)
TiO ₂	265	0.17	(0.17 – 0.17)	0.43	(0.42 – 0.43)
ZrO ₂	194				
ThO ₂	53	0.21	(0.16 – 0.26)	1.09	(1.04 – 1.14)
UO ₂	151	0.08	(0.05 – 0.10)	0.24	(0.17 – 0.31)
Al ₂ O ₃	94	0.00		0.00	
Y ₂ O ₃	139	42.2	(42.03 – 42.39)	42.2	(41.95 – 42.38)
La ₂ O ₃	372	0.00		0.00	
Ce ₂ O ₃	342	0.05	(0.05 – 0.06)	0.05	(0.04 – 0.05)
Pr ₂ O ₃	525	0.09	(0.08 – 0.11)	0.07	(0.07 – 0.08)
Nd ₂ O ₃	476	0.36	(0.35 – 0.36)	0.58	(0.50 – 0.67)
Sm ₂ O ₃	405	0.71	(0.70 – 0.73)	0.59	(0.47 – 0.71)
Gd ₂ O ₃	515	4.55	(4.47 – 4.63)	3.49	(3.46 – 3.52)
Tb ₂ O ₃	481	0.93	(0.91 – 0.95)	0.86	(0.86 – 0.87)
Dy ₂ O ₃	469	5.73	(5.72 – 5.73)	5.02	(4.68 – 5.36)
Ho ₂ O ₃	650	0.86	(0.85 – 0.87)	0.79	(0.78 – 0.80)
Er ₂ O ₃	559	3.27	(3.17 – 3.37)	3.08	(3.05 – 3.10)
Tm ₂ O ₃ *		0.39	(0.38 – 0.39)	0.43	(0.42 – 0.44)
Yb ₂ O ₃	280	1.83	(1.82 – 1.83)	2.65	(2.52 – 2.77)
Lu ₂ O ₃	295	0.29	(0.28 – 0.29)	0.41	(0.40 – 0.42)
CaO	42	0.06	(0.06 – 0.06)	0.03	(0.02 – 0.03)
FeO	207	0.00		0.00	
PbO	82	0.00		0.02	(0.01 – 0.03)
Total		96.9		96.6	
ΣREY ₂ O ₃		61.3	(61.14 – 61.37)	60.2	(60.08 – 60.29)

*=interpolated (straight line between nearest adjoining REEs on chondrite normalise plots)